

400 years of Black history in Canada

By Amadou Ba Historian and writer

In this presentation, I want to update Blacks' contributions to the building of Canada by dedicating his analysis on Black slaves, soldiers, and different historical figures. In the first part, I will relate the ancient, continuous, and geographically diverse Black's migration to Canada since Mathew Da Costa, who is supposed to be the first Black man to set foot in the Canadian Deep Snow in 1604. Then, I will review certain themes: slavery in New- France, loyalists, refugees, freedom seekers from the United States, the Underground Railroad, economic migrants mostly from the Caribbean during the Glorious Thirties. In the second part of the presentation, I will speak the recruitment of Blacks as soldiers and their contributions in all Canadians both inside and outside of Canada, before and after Confederation (1812-1945), as well as great Afro Canadians and their role in this country.